The Oklahoma 4-H Equine Makeover is presented by Nexus Equine. Nexus Equine collaborates and partners with other equine organizations, horse and breed associations, national animal welfare organizations and horse enthusiasts on a local and national level to be able to help horses more efficiently and effectively.

The primary desired impact is to reduce the number of at-risk horses through education, outreach and adoption. Nexus Equine is a 501c3 non-profit corporation and funded solely on donations and grants. Nexus is a limited intake program and is not a sanctuary. The Mission of Nexus Equine is to facilitate alternatives for horses and owners through innovative opportunities and outreach.

The Right Horse Initiative is honored to announce the Madi Memorial Grant in memory of 8-year-old Madilyn Patrick who passed away in 2017 after fighting a valiant battle with liver cancer. As the daughter of professional horse trainer Sean Patrick, Madi had a deep love of riding and dreamed of becoming a veterinarian in order to help animals in need. Having grown up knowing the special bond between horse and human, Madi was especially passionate about anything that brought horses and kids together. The creation of this special grant will carry on Madi’s legacy by supporting groups working to help horses in transition. The Madi Memorial Grant offers up to $50,000 to the organization that demonstrates the most innovative plan for boosting equine adoption. Our goal is to fund Oklahoma 4-H and better ways of doing things in order to help your organization grow its capacity for adoption in a big way.

Nexus Equine was awarded this prestigious grant and has partnered with Oklahoma 4-H. Through this partnership, and in an effort to honor the life of Madi Patrick, the Oklahoma 4-H Equine Makeover was formed. Eligibility requirements to apply include the youth being at least 13 years old and being an active Oklahoma 4-H member that has participated or is enrolled in one or more of the following 4-H Horse educational events and contests:

- Horse Communication Contest
- 4-H State Judging Contest
- Statewide 4-H Family Horse Camp
- 4-H Cowhorse Clinic
- Equine Education Extravaganza
- 4-H Round Up
- Horse Science Academy

Oklahoma 4-H 90-Day Equine Makeover Challenge
Applications will be reviewed by a panel of industry professionals and narrowed down to 10 finalists. The 10 Finalists will be paired with a horse to participate in the 90-Day challenge. The parent/guardian will be required to adopt the horse on “Day 1.” All horses in the program will be up to date on all vaccinations, farrier work and microchipped. Participants and parent/guardians are required to be present on “Day 1” to receive the horse, complete the initial evaluation before the panel of judges, and set goals for the 90-Day Challenge. Participants will be required to keep financial records as well as a training journal documenting their progress.

Nexus Equine has arranged transportation assistance for the horses to those that need it. Nexus will also identify mentors to assist all of the participants during the 90-Day Challenge.

All participants will be required to present their equine on “Day 90” to the original panel of judges. The judges will review the individualized goals (set forth on Day 1), the record book and the partnership created in the 90-Day Challenge. A $1,500 Scholarship will be awarded, as well as many other awards & prizes to participants. These prizes are in addition to each finalist getting the option to keep (own) the horse, or the horse may be returned back to Nexus Equine for adoption.

**SCHEDULE**

February 1st - Applications available

March 15th - Application deadline

March 30th - “Day 1” 10 Finalists will be presented their equine at The Heritage Place in Oklahoma City

June 29th - “Day 90” 10 Finalists will demonstrate their accomplishments to the panel of judges and be evaluated. Event will be held at The Heritage Place in Oklahoma City